Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the ancestor application.

1. (Original) A method for caching multimedia content to an occasionally-connected device, comprising:

creating a play list based at least in part on a user's preferences;

submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through a network;

downloading multimedia content in the play list to a device when the device is connected to the multimedia content provider and caching the multimedia content on the device; and

playing the cached multimedia content while the device is not connected to the multimedia content provider.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein creating a play list comprises:

creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: the user's specifications, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;

expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional content based on the user's preferences; and

refining the expanded initial play list based on the user's feedback.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein expanding the initial play list comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of other users.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a portable device.

5. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein playing the multimedia content comprises accessing the multimedia content and rendering the multimedia content to the user.

6. (Original) The method for claim 5, wherein accessing the multimedia content comprises at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia content.

7. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein the network comprises at least one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

8. (Original) A method for distributing multimedia files, comprising:
accepting a play list of multimedia files;
searching a database for multimedia content according to the play list;
processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is downloaded; and
transferring the multimedia content to an occasionally-connected device.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the occasionally-connected device comprises a portable device.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein processing the multimedia files comprises at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the database comprises at least one of static and dynamic multimedia content.

12. (Original) A system for caching multimedia contents to an occasionally connected device, comprising:

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a play list creator capable of creating a play list of multimedia files;

a multimedia content provider capable of providing multimedia files specified by the play list for a user to download;

a multimedia content cache capable of receiving the multimedia files through a network and storing the multimedia files; and

a multimedia content player capable of accessing and rendering the multimedia contents to the user.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the play list creator comprises:

a play list generating mechanism capable of generating a play list;

a pre-determining mechanism capable of at least one of the following: receiving parameters specifying the user's preferences, loading a user pre-defined play list, and providing a number of play lists pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;

a recommendation mechanism capable of expanding the play list by recommending additional multimedia files; and

a user feedback uploading mechanism capable of uploading the user feedback to refine the play list.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content provider comprises:

a communication port;

a multimedia content database;

a searching mechanism capable of searching the multimedia content database for multimedia files in the play list; and

a content processing mechanism capable of at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

15. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content cache comprises:

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a communication port;

a receiving component capable of downloading and receiving the multimedia files from the multimedia content provider through a network; and

a storage component capable of storing the multimedia files.

16. The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content player comprises:

a multimedia content access module capable of at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia files stored in the multimedia content cache; and

a multimedia content rendering mechanism capable of rendering the multimedia files to a user.

17. (Original) An article comprising: a machine accessible medium having content stored thereon, wherein when the content is accessed by a processor, the content provides for caching multimedia content to an occasionally-connected device by:

creating a play list based at least in part on a user's preferences;

submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through a network;

downloading multimedia content in the play list to a device when the device is connected to the multimedia content provider and caching the multimedia content on the device; and

playing the cached multimedia content while the device is not connected to the multimedia content provider.

18. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the content for creating a play list comprises content for:

creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: the user's specifications, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;

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expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional content based on the user's preferences; and

refining the expanded initial play list based on the user's feedback.

19. (Original) The article of claim 18, wherein the content for expanding the initial play list comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of other users.

20. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the device comprises a portable device.

21. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the content for playing the multimedia content comprises content for accessing the multimedia content and content for rendering the multimedia content to the user.

22. (Original) The article for claim 21, wherein the content for accessing the multimedia content comprises content for at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia content.

23. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the network comprises at least one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

24. (Original) An article comprising: a machine accessible medium having content stored thereon, wherein when the content is accessed by a processor, the content provides for distributing multimedia files by:

accepting a play list of multimedia files;

searching a database for multimedia content according to the play list;

processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is downloaded; and

transferring the multimedia content to an occasionally-connected device.

25. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the occasionally-connected device comprises a portable device.

26. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the content for processing the multimedia files comprises content for at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

27. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the database comprises at least one of static and dynamic multimedia content.

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